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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO.

# INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

25X1A

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

DATE DISTR. 6 June 1950

**SUBJECT** Shipyards at Komarno

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**NO. OF ENCLS.** **1 Annex**  
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**SOURCE**

1. Two shipyards, one old and one new, for river ships plying the Danube River and its tributaries are located at Komarno (P48/T76). The old shipyard is situated on the Red Fleet Island, formerly known as Elizabeth Island; the new shipyard is on the northern shore of the winter harbor adjoining the dead arm of the Danube. Until the end of 1949, both shipyards were branches of the Skoda Works and attached to the branch at Hradec Kralova (Koeniggratz). On 1 January 1950, the shipyards became an independent national corporation bearing the name of Komorn Skoda Works. The new shipyard is definitely intended for the construction of new ships, while the old shipyard will be used for repair work.
2. The old shipyard employs 860 clerks and workers, of whom 400 are skilled workers. They work in two shifts of eight hours each, but the skilled workers sometimes work three shifts. The shipyard suffers from a shortage of capable skilled laborers, especially welders. By transferring training to other facilities, an attempt is being made to remedy this situation.
3. The following machinery and equipment are found in the old shipyard:
  - 8 electric forge hammers
  - 8 vertical drilling machines
  - 5 milling machines
  - 20 lathes (approximately)
  - 4 shaping planing benches
  - 2 special vertical drilling machines
  - 12 welding sets, Kielberg type, English make
  - 14 welding sets, Praga 320 type, Czech make
4. The following supplies are received:
  - a. Steel plates from Vitkovice, Trinec, and Podbrezova.
  - b. Frames and longitudinal connections from Podbrezova.
  - c. Ship engines from the Smichov branch of Skoda.

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- d. Couplings for ship engines from the Hradec Kralove branch of Skoda.
- e. Material from the USSR for construction of new ships for the USSR and repairs to their ships.
5. The existing great shortage in Swedish steel and in non-ferrous metals such as lead, copper, and tin is hampering production. Only four of the English welding sets are in operation since the required electrodes cannot be obtained. A delivery of these electrodes from England has not yet arrived. Similar difficulties exist with the welding sets of Czech make.
6. Production consists of the following:
  - a. New construction for Czechoslovakia:
    - 1) The large tugboat "Gerlach," 1350 h.p.
    - 2) Two tugboats for stone transportation.
  - b. Rebuilding and repair work for Czechoslovakia:
    - 1) Repair and reconstruction of a monitor, equipped with 150 mm guns, and belonging to the Czech Danube River flotilla.
    - 2) Conversion of the tugboats "Hron," "Nitra," and "Torisa" from steam to Diesel.
    - 3) Repair of the tugboat "Star."
  - c. Repairs for the USSR:
    - 1) Repair and replacing of the engine in the tanker "Chason," weight 640 tons and formerly the "Julius Wallner" of the Austrian Danube River Company.
  - d. New construction for the Bulgarian Danube merchant fleet:
    - 1) Eight riveted tugboats.
7. The new shipyard covers an area of about 1,000 x 700 m. and is surrounded by a fence. Construction of the shipyard was begun in April 1947, and the rough brickwork structures were completed in November 1949. Work, however, has not yet been started because of a lack of the necessary machinery.
8. The attached sketch of the shipyards at Komarno was drawn in accordance with information obtained from both sources and with the Komarno town plan.

Attachment: Annex, containing sketch of the Komarno shipyards, and legend.

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Legend to Annex

A. New Shipyard.

- a. Concrete slip, 120 m. long, for hauling ships to the work area; electric lifting crane for conveyance of ships to and from work area.
- b. Unenclosed work site, about 300 x 500 m. in size, for construction of new ships and for repair work.
- c. Fitting shop with 10 construction areas, each one of which is 25-35 m. wide. The size of the shop is about 350 x 500 m.
- d. A forge, about 150 x 100 m. in size.
- e. Mechanical workshop, about 150 x 50 m. in size.
- f. Carpenter shop, about 150 x 100 m. in size.
- g. Electric workshop, about 30 x 40 m. in size.
- h. Transformer station.

B. Old shipyard.

1. Administration building.
2. Anchoring place for ships and cranes for lifting ships to the work area.
3. Unenclosed work area about 70 x 70 m. in size, for construction of new ships and repairs.
4. Mechanical shop and forge.
5. Locksmith shop and plumbing shop for work on steel plates to be used in planking of ships.
6. Storehouse, about 25 x 5 m. in size.
7. Carpenter shop.

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Annex

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Komarno River Shipyards

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to BRATISLAVA



KOMARNO RR Station

to NOVE ZAMKY

Wag-River

N. Dunaj-River

Legend:

- A New Shipyard
- B Old Shipyard

**KOMARNO**

Winter-Harbor

"Red Fleet"-Island  
(Elizabeth-Island)

Danube-River

Hungary

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